

### REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment after Notice of Allowance. This Amendment relates only to previously allowed, dependent claims 13 and 17, and merely adds to those two claims the verbatim language from other, previously allowed dependent claims. Claims 13 and 17 still depend on claim 1, and still include the language of all intervening claims of previously allowed claims 13 and 17. As such, amended, dependent claims 13 and 17, as amended herein, are no broader than as previously allowed; no more than a cursory review is required to verify that fact; and there is no need for excessive editorial checking.

Acceptance of this Amendment is respectfully requested. This Amendment is being filed concurrently with the payment of the issue fee.

The particular, previously allowed dependent claims which were combined to amend claims 13 and 17, are as follows:

Claim 13, as originally allowed, depended on claim 1 through intervening claims 3 and 4. Amended claim 13, which still depends ultimately on independent claim 1, has been rewritten to include the verbatim language from previously intervening claims 3 and 4. Amended claim 13 now also includes verbatim language from previously allowed, dependent claims 5 and 6, and depends on previously allowed, intervening claims 11 and 12. Claim 13 is thus supported by the specification, does not contain new matter, can be allowed without excessive editorial review, with no more than a cursory review, and without further search.

Claim 17, as originally allowed, depended on claim 1 through intervening claims 3, 4, 13, 14, and 15. Amended claim 17, which still depends ultimately on independent claim 1, has now been rewritten to include the verbatim language of all the intervening claims from which it previously depended, and to depend from claim 1 through intervening claims 11, 12, and 16. As such, amended claim 17 is supported by the specification, does not introduce new matter, can be

Applicant : Herve Gaulard  
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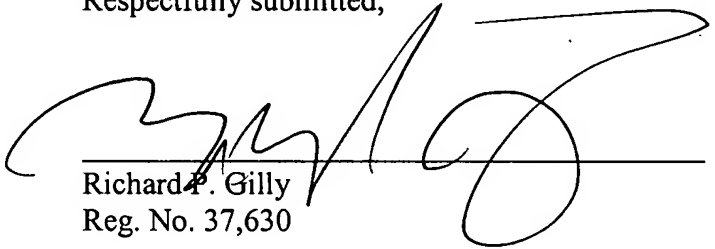
allowed without excessive editorial checking, with no more than a cursory review, and without further search.

Entry of this amendment, in view of its formal nature and ease of review, is respectfully requested.

If a petition is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the corresponding fees, or to apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Sept. 22, 2006

  
Richard F. Gilly  
Reg. No. 37,630

Fish & Richardson P.C.  
P.O. Box 1022  
Minneapolis, MN 55440-1022  
Telephone: (302) 652-5070  
Facsimile: (877) 769-7945